

12 February 1944

Dear Mrs Barnes,

Thanks for your letter about the little book-packet to June. It is immensely kind of you both to think of Mar. I am afraid that the trouble to which you have been put must be partly my fault, for on coming here I found that there was an official residence, which however in the circumstances could not be used for the purpose for some years, and I shrank altogether from the problem of trying to find accommodation for my family in Cambridge, so they are still at the old house at Harpenden. (Milton Lodge, Harpenden, Herts.)

Of course, all this does not excuse the Post Office for not finding me at Cambridge, where I have been in residence almost continuously.

I am so glad you liked the pamphlet on the birth-rate. I feel it a kind of duty, tedious though it certainly is, to keep on hammering at the old arguments. Of course we shall

drift into some system of family allowances in mitigation of obvious hardship, but this is so much worse than seeing the principles of the thing and dealing constructively with it.

I will enquire about the other packet you sent for her birthday. It is possible that my wife forgot to acknowledge it.

Yours sincere.